

New Zealand Loyal
Party Constitution
2023





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Article 1: Name and Structure of the Party

- The name of the Party is New Zealand Loyal (NZL).
- Structure: Party Leader, Board, Candidates, Regional and/or Electorate Committees, Members, Volunteers.

Registered Office

The registered office of the Party will be at such place as the New Zealand Loyal board from time to time determines.

Article 2: Objectives, Principles and Philosophies

1. Objectives:

- NZL was conceived and formed as a political organisation which provides Constituency and List Members of Parliament to represent *all New Zealanders*.
- The objects for which NZL is established are to:
 - Promote and support policies which reflect the Core Philosophies of the Party.
 - Promote and manage the goals of the Party including the selection of and support for List and Electorate Constituency candidates for election to the New Zealand House of Representatives.
 - Establish and maintain a political party structure of national infrastructure to achieve these objectives.
 - Ensure prudential and fiscal oversight of all monies which comes into the possession of the Party.

2. Principles: NZL recognises:

- Parliament being a body of Representatives elected by universal suffrage forming part of the government of New Zealand and subject to transparency and accountability.
- Separation of powers: Legislature, Government and Courts constitute a fundamental tenant of democracy.
- The rights of all New Zealanders to:
 - Vote in parliamentary General Elections according to the law.
 - Equality before the law in race, religion, creed, colour, culture, gender, sexual orientation; freedom of political beliefs, freedom of speech and of association.
 - Provision of physical security and safety through and by agencies of the State and protection of legal rights through and by the Courts of the land.
 - Free access to primary health care; primary education, provision of welfare assistance by the State where needs satisfy legal pre-requisites and the right to a state funded superannuation pension.
 - Pursue self-development through equal opportunity and without fear of favour or prejudice through or by agencies of the State.

3. Core Philosophies of NZL:

- The Right to Equality for all before the law: Irrespective of race, creed, colour, religion of beliefs.
- The Right to private property.
- The Right to voice opinion without fear of censorship or penalty of any kind. The only restrictions on speech that NZL recognises are the traditional constitutional-law restrictions relating to (1) content-neutral 'time, manner, place' regulations; and (2) narrowly construed 'speech acts' that amount to direct incitement to violence.
- The right to challenge government policy.
- The right for empirical medical, legal, technical research, to be presented for public scrutiny without fear of vilification and penalty imposed by government bureaucrats.
- The right to accept or reject medical intrusion, without reward or without penalty.
- The right not to be detained by the State except as provided by statutory law where that law is not inconsistent with the Human Rights Act 1993 and/or the New Zealand Bill of Rights 1990; and where detained, to never be denied due process of law.
- The right to remain silent.
- ALL OF THE POLICY STATEMENTS ENUNCIATED IN AND PUBLICISED VIA VIDEOS UPLOADED ONTO THE NZL OFFICIAL WEBSITE ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

4. Party Structure

- The Party shall consist of two Wings: The Administrative Wing (**Article 5**) and the Parliamentary Wing (**Article 6**).

Article 3: Definitions

- **“Administrative Wing”** means the Board of NZL including Regional Presidents and Electorate Chairs, this is also the “committee”.
- **“Annual Conference”** means and includes the Annual General Meeting of the Party which shall elect persons to hold office in the Party.
- **“AGM of the Party”** means the Annual General meeting of the Board and members.
- **“Annual Financial Report”** means financial reports required to be submitted to the AGM of the Party by the party Treasurer and Regional Presidents.
- **“Annual Report”** means the end of year report on the business of either Regions or the Party, which must be presented to the membership of the AGM of the Party by the Secretary.
- **“Attend”** includes presence of a person at the transaction of business by means of telephone or other electronic technology.
- **“Balance Date”** means the end of the Party’s financial year determined by the Board.
- **“Board”** means the Board of Government and Management of the Party and shall consist of no less than three and not more than 11 members, including the leader or co-leaders, and deputy or co-deputy leaders in accordance with Article 5.
- **“Board Member”** means any person or persons elected to the Board in accordance with Article 5 and 7.

- **“Body Corporate”** Means all the members of the party, including the Board, forming one body.
- **“Candidate”** means any Member selected as the Party’s representative to stand on behalf of the Party, whether in an electorate or on the Party List, in accordance with these Rules as a candidate for a seat in the New Zealand House of Representatives.
- **“Candidates Register”** means a list compiled by the Board of all potential candidates together with such information about the prospective candidates the Board sees fit to include.
- **“Candidate Selection Committee”** means a committee of members including the Party Leader and any co-leaders or deputy leader, constituted by the Board for the nomination and presentation of potential candidates to the membership for voting on at a General Meeting in accordance with Article 7.
- **“Caucus”** means the Party Leader and the candidates.
- **“Committee”** means one or more Members appointed by the Board to carry out any administrative function or functions concerning the affairs of the Party.
- **“Constitution”** means this Constitution of the Party.
- **“Constitutional committee”** means a committee convened by the Board to review amendments to the Constitution for approval at General Meetings of the Party.
- **“Convener”** means a member approved by the Board and given access to contact details of members and supporters in their electorate or region, for the purpose of building a core working group to raise the party profile in their area.
- **“Deputy Leader”** or **“Co-Leader”** means a person appointed in accordance with Article 5.
- **“Election”** means a general election or a by-election as the case may require.
- **“Electoral Act”** means the Electoral Act 1993 and any Act of the House of Representatives amending or replacing that Act.
- **“Electorate Candidate”** means a Member chosen in accordance with this Constitution and Rules to stand as the Party’s candidate in an electorate either at a general election or a by-election.
- **“Electorate Committee”** means one or more Members responsible for the Party’s affairs in an electorate.
- **“Electorate Chair”** means a Member appointed by the Regional President and/or the electorate candidate as the person responsible for building a working team in the electorate.
- **“Gender”**: in this document words importing the plural include the singular and vice versa, and words importing the masculine include the feminine and vice versa.
- **“General Meeting”** means either an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting of the Members.
- **“Leader”** means the leader of the Party appointed in accordance with Articles 5 and 7.
- **“List”** or **“Party List”** means the List of Candidates compiled by the Party Caucus in accordance with Article 6 for the purposes of section 127 of the Electoral Act (or any replacement provision) as the Party’s list of candidates for election to the House of Representatives under the list seats provisions of the Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system of representation.
- **“Member”** or **“Party Member”** means any person who is a financial member of the Party in accordance with these Rules.
- **“Membership year”** means the membership year of the Party which runs from 1 July to 30 June for the purpose of levying subscriptions.

- **“Member of Parliament”** means a Member of the Party elected to the New Zealand Parliament and serving a current term of office.
- **“Notice”** is any advice, document, or mail, required to be sent out to, or from a member or body of the party, as set out in the Constitution.
- **“Party”** means **New Zealand Loyal** (NZL) of which this document is the Constitution and Rules for the purposes of the Electoral Act.
- **“Party Financial Records”** refers to the official financial records maintained and returned by the Board Secretary with assistance from the Party Treasurer, for the purpose of recording subscriptions, donations, and expenses to the Party in accordance with the Electoral Act 206I and 207M.
- **“Parliamentary Wing”** of the Party shall consist of the candidate members of the Party elected to the NZ House of Representatives. The Party Leader is the President of the Parliamentary Wing. Should at any time a member of the Parliamentary Wing cease to be a member of the Party, he or she shall also cease to be a member of the Parliamentary Wing.
- **“Policies”** The Party policies which the candidates and Party Leader will take to the electorate and ultimately to the NZ House of Representatives. These are determined and maintained in accordance with Article 8.
- **“President”** or **“Vice President”** means a member holding office for the time being in accordance with Article 5. The President is the Board Member responsible for, among other things, overseeing the governance and operations of the Party (excluding the Parliamentary Wing), and is responsible for chairing General Meetings and Conferences.
- **“Regional Committee”** means a committee of Party Members constituted in accordance with Article 5 which is responsible for the affairs of the Party in a geographic region determined by the Board which may be the same as or different from the boundaries of electorates as set by the Electoral Commission.
- **“Regional President”** is the chair/convener of the Regional Committee in accordance with Articles 5 and 7.
- **“Registered Office”** is the address in NZ for the Party as determined by the Board from time to time and required by the Electoral Act.
- **“Rules”** means the rules set out in this document as amended in accordance with its terms.
- **“Secretary”** means any person appointed under Articles 5 and 7 to perform the duties of the Secretary of the Party or any person authorised to act in that person’s place.
- **“Special Conference”** means a conference called by the Board for the purpose of considering a resolution to wind up the Party or for any other purpose the Board sees fit.
- **“Subscription”** means the required levy or membership fee determined by the Board.
- **“Subject Matter Expert (SME)”** is a person who is either a member or a non-member, who is brought in by the Board or the Caucus, to advise and assist the Board or the Caucus or to assist a committee appointed by the Board or the Caucus.
- **“Treasurer”** or **“Party Treasurer”** means a Member appointed or elected under Article 7 who shall perform such duties as the Board shall determine from time to time.

Article 4: Membership

1. Membership Eligibility: Any person who is entitled to be an “elector” as defined in the Electoral Act may become a member of the Party by completing all of the following:



- a. Consenting to be a member by applying in writing or online on the NZL website to become a member. This includes signing a pledge to the **Statement of NZL Party Principles**.
 - b. Paying such sum by way of Subscription as may be determined from time to time by the Board.
 - c. Not being a member of another political party unless special permission is given by the Board.
2. A person will cease to be member in accordance with one or more of the following:
- a. A member gives notice in writing to the Secretary of his or her resignation.
 - b. The Board believes at its absolute discretion that a member has failed to comply with these rules or is guilty of conduct unbecoming of a member or prejudicial to the interests of the Party or has acted in contradiction to their pledge to the Statement of NZL Party Principles and the Board has provided notice to the member of its resolution to expel that member.
 - c. A member dies; or
 - d. The third anniversary of the last payment of their membership fee passes.
3. A member who has resigned or been expelled from the Party will cease to hold himself/herself out as a member of the Party and will return to the Party all material produced by the Party (including any membership certificate, handbooks, and manuals).
4. Members must treat all information relating to commercial and political arrangements entered into by the Party as strictly confidential and must not disclose any information regarding those arrangements or any other confidential or sensitive information relating to the Party, to any third party without the prior written approval of the Board.
5. Rights and Obligations: Members have full voting rights at AGMs and can be selected for party positions as per Article 7.
6. **MEMBER CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**
- a. The Board may suspend or cancel the membership of any Party Member who by words and/or conduct brings the Party or the Party Principles into disrepute or who violates their **Statement of Party Principles** or whose words and/or conduct otherwise prejudice the interests of the Party but shall not be obliged or required to give any more detailed reason for any such suspension or cancellation.
 - b. Prior to suspending or cancelling a person's membership, the Board shall provide such person with a full and fair opportunity to be heard in respect of the alleged words and/or conduct and shall investigate any such allegations as fully as it considers to be appropriate in all the circumstances. The Board shall notify the affected person of the intended action with the reasons. However, in cases of extreme urgency, the Board may immediately suspend the affected person on an interim basis, until the investigation is decided.



- c. The affected person has five working days to respond to the notice of proposed action after notification. If there is no such response within that time, then the action will take effect.
- d. If the affected person responds, a meeting will be held within 15 working days. If the affected person does not attend, nor further cooperate with the meeting process, then the Board may decide with the current information before it.
- e. The Board may delegate its power to hear appeals to a person or body appointed for the purpose by the Board but may not delegate any disciplinary decision. The delegate must report back to the Board for the final decision to be made.
- f. The Board must determine any appeal based on the completed report, records, and/or evidence of the preceding investigation. The Board need not hear evidence on appeal unless the Board considers that doing so is necessary in the interests of fairness and then only to that extent.
- g. Unless the Board specifically determines otherwise, notice of suspension or cancellation of membership shall be given to the membership of the Party as soon as conveniently possible.
- h. The ruling of the Board regarding any appeal is final and binding on the parties and cannot be further appealed.

7. Disputes between Members will be settled in accordance with Article 12.

Article 5: Governance – Board Members (The Administrative Wing)

The Board manages or supervises the affairs of NZL, and has all the powers necessary for managing, directing, and supervising the management of NZL. The Board does not determine NZL policy nor engage in any negotiations with possible coalition partners. These are the roles and responsibilities of the Caucus and the Parliamentary Wing.

A person ceases to be a member of the Board in one of the following ways:

1. They resign in writing to the Party Leader or Party Secretary,
2. They are removed from office by a vote of 75% of the other Board members,
3. Die, or
4. Otherwise vacates the office in accordance with the Constitution.

Members of the Board shall serve for a term of three years at which point they cease to be a member of the Board unless they are re-elected at an AGM or SGM prior to the expiry of that term.

The quorum for Board meetings is at least 50% of Board members, including the Party Leader or a Deputy or Co-Leader. Decisions of the Board are made by majority vote, except as otherwise provided for in the Constitution.

The following office holders are members of the Board of NZL:

1. **Party Leader:** For the Purposes of the 2023 General Election, The NZL Party Leader shall be Liz Gunn. After the 2023 General Election, The Party Leader shall be re-appointed at the next AGM as per Article 7. The Party Leader is the Chairperson of the Board and is responsible for

the successful execution of the Principles and Objectives of NZL. The Party Leader has a casting vote in the event there is an equality of votes by members of the Board.

2. **Deputy Leaders** or Co-leaders: For the Purposes of the 2023 General Election, Deputy Leaders or Co-leaders shall be appointed by the Party Leader. After the 2023 General election, they shall be appointed by the members at an AGM and can also be removed by such, as per Article 7.
3. **Party President:** For the Purposes of the 2023 General Election, The NZL Party President shall be appointed by the Party Leader. After the 2023 General Election, The Party President shall be re-appointed at the AGM as per Article 7. The President is responsible for overseeing the governance and operations of the Party (excluding the Caucus and the Parliamentary Wing) and is responsible for chairing General Meetings and Conferences.
4. **Party Secretary:** For the Purposes of the 2023 General Election, The NZL Party Secretary shall be appointed by the Party Leader. After the 2023 General Election, The Party Secretary shall be re-appointed at the AGM as per Article 7.
 - (a) If a vacancy occurs in the position of Party Secretary, the remaining Board members of the party must ensure that, within 5 working days of the vacancy occurring,
 - (b) A new Secretary is appointed; or
 - (c) A person is appointed to act in the position of Secretary until a new Secretary can be appointed.
 - (d) A person appointed under subsection (a) or (b) must immediately notify the Electoral Commission of that person's appointment.
 - (e) The Secretary is responsible for keeping the Register of Members, the Register of Interests, and recording the minutes of General Meetings and Board meetings. The Register of Members must contain:
 - a. The name of each member.
 - b. The last known contact details of each member.
 - c. The date on which each person became a member.
 - d. All other information prescribed by law.
 - (f) (Electoral Act 1993 67AA).
5. **Party Treasurer:** For the Purposes of the 2023 General Election, The NZL Party Treasurer shall be appointed by the Party Leader. After the 2023 General Election, The Party Treasurer shall be re-appointed at the AGM as per Article 7. The Party Treasurer is responsible for keeping accurate and up to date accounts of Party donations and expenditures, particularly in reference to the Electoral Act 1993 financial reporting requirements.
6. **Regional Presidents:** The Party Leader and Board members may elect or replace Regional Presidents from time to time to manage electorates. The Regional Presidents are responsible for the administration of the electorate campaigns within their areas and may convene Regional Committees.

Article 6: Leadership – Candidates (The Caucus and the Parliamentary Wing)

1. The **Caucus** of NZL is comprised of the Party Leader and candidates, before during and after a General Election.
2. The Caucus led by the Party Leader, determines the policies of the Party and is responsible to the membership and supporters for protecting and promoting the objectives of the Party.
3. The **Parliamentary Wing** consists of candidates and the Party Leader as elected to the NZ House of Representatives. The Parliamentary Wing, led by the Party Leader, is responsible for negotiations with potential coalition partners. The Parliamentary Wing will advance the policies, objectives, and philosophy of NZL within the NZ Parliamentary system.
4. **Selection of Candidates.** For the 2023 General Election, the Party Leader and the Board have the sole discretion to nominate suitable candidates from among the membership for ratification by the members through a postal ballot. For subsequent General Elections (2026 and onwards), candidates will be nominated by the Board-appointed Candidate Selection Committee for ratification by the members at the Annual General Meeting in the year before the General Election year, as per Article 7.
5. **Ordering of Candidates on the Party List.** The ordering of the candidates on the Party List will take place in the year of the General Election, prior to Writ Day. The ordering of the Party List is the responsibility of the Party Leader and the Caucus. Ordering of the Party List shall take place by ballot as follows.
 - a. The Party Leader is automatically at first place on the list.
 - b. Co-leaders are automatically at the next places on the list as negotiated with the Party Leader.
 - c. Remaining places on the Party List are for the candidates by ballot as follows:
 - i. Each candidate shall have one vote for one other candidate of their choice but may not vote for themselves.
 - ii. The Party Leader shall have five votes.
 - iii. Votes will be cast and counted by scrutineers chosen by the members at the previous AGM or by members of the Board for the 2023 General Election.
 - iv. Candidates will be ordered according to the number of votes cast. For tied positions, another round of voting will take place as before but just for the tied candidates.

Article 7: Annual General Meetings (AGMs), Special General Meetings, Election of Officers

1. **Annual General Meetings.** The Party must convene an AGM of its members at least once each calendar year. The Board must set the date of the meeting. The notice convening the AGM must state that the meeting is the Annual General Meeting. The ordinary business of the AGM is, without limitation:
 - a. To confirm the minutes of the last AGM and any general meeting held since that meeting.
 - b. To receive from the Board, reports on the activities of the Party since the last AGM.
 - c. To read the names of those elected to the Board.
 - d. To present the financial report.
 - e. To debate and vote upon remits approved by the Board; and
 - f. The meeting may also transact any special business determined by the Board of which notice is given in accordance with these rules.

- g. The election or re-election of Officers of the Party.
 - h. The selection of candidates in the year prior to a General Election.
2. **Special General Meetings (SGMs).** Any general meeting of the Party except the Annual General Meeting is a Special General Meeting. The Board may convene a SGM whenever it thinks fit. Party members may also call a SGM by a petition to the Board of not less than 50 members. The petition will include agenda items for the SGM. References in these rules to General Meetings includes SGMs.
3. **Notice of General Meetings.** At least 14 days before the date fixed for a General Meeting of the Party, the Secretary must send each member of the Party a notice specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at it.
4. **Limitation on business to be transacted.** No business may be transacted at a General Meeting of the Party except the business specified in the notice of meeting. A member who wants an item of business to be transacted at a General Meeting may give notice of the business in writing to the Secretary. The Secretary may include the business in the next notice of a General Meeting at the discretion of the Board.
5. **Quorum.** An item of business may not be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum of members entitled to vote is present while the item is being transacted. The quorum has at least 50 members.
6. **Attendance.** Members shall be considered to be present at the Annual General Meeting if they are physically present. At Special General Meetings, members may be physically present or they can attend the meeting and contribute to proceedings by way of conference call or similar electronic medium.
7. **Chairperson at meetings.** The Board President must preside as chairperson at each General Meeting of the Party. If the Board Chair is absent, one of the other Board members present chosen by the Board will preside as chairperson at the meeting.
8. **Meetings Rules:** General meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. Minutes will be taken by the Board Secretary or delegate at all AGM and SGMs.
9. **One member, one vote.** A member has one vote on any question that is to be decided at a General Meeting. A vote must be given personally. If votes on a question are tied, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.
10. **A written resolution** in lieu of vote is valid if approved by at least 75% of members who are entitled to vote at an AGM.
11. **Voting by show of hands.** A question that is to be decided at a General Meeting of the Party is to be decided on a show of hands. Unless a poll is demanded, a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has been carried, carried unanimously, carried by a particular majority, or lost, plus an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Party, is evidence of that fact, without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded for and against that resolution.
12. **Demanding a poll.** If at least five members entitled to vote at a General Meeting demand a poll on a question that is to be decided at the meeting, the chairperson must comply with that demand. The demand may be made before a show of hands or immediately after the chairperson's declaration on a show of hands. In the latter case, the poll overrides the show of hands. A poll that is demanded on a question of an adjournment must be taken immediately. Any other poll must be taken before the close of the meeting.
13. **Election of Officers.** The appointment of Officers of the Party is as follows:

- a. The positions of Party Leader, Deputy Leaders, Co-leaders, President, and other Board members shall be decided by the members of the Party by majority vote at an AGM or Special General Meeting.
 - b. Regional Presidents shall be appointed by the Board.
 - c. Electorate Chairs shall be appointed by the Regional Presidents and the associated electorate candidates.
14. **Election of Candidates.** In the year prior to a General Election, apart from 2023 (Article 6.4)
- a. Candidates for electoral positions shall be nominated by a member of the Candidate Selection Committee and seconded by another such member.
 - b. At the AGM, members shall vote for the candidates on ballot papers provided by the Candidate Selection Committee to the AGM.
 - c. The Board shall then appoint two scrutineers to count the votes.
 - d. Each member present and desiring to vote shall by secret ballot cast a maximum of 1 vote for each available position, and the candidate(s) securing the most votes shall be deemed to be appointed.
 - e. In the event that there is more than one candidate for a position and voting is tied then, in the case of the Party Leader, the Party President shall cast a vote on. In any other case the Party Leader shall have the casting vote.

Article 8: Policy Formation and Decision-Making

1. Policy Team: The Party Leader will appoint the Policy Team from among the candidates. Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) will be appointed from within the Policy team by the Party Leader. The SMEs will develop policies within their chosen field. They may consult with SMEs from outside the Party. Candidates will also report feedback from supporters to the Policy Team. The Party Leader will review, amend, and finally approve all policies before publishing.
2. Decision-Making: Administrative decisions are the responsibility and authority of the Board. Policy decisions are the responsibility and authority of the Caucus.

Article 9: Elections and Campaigns

1. Candidates are selected for elections in accordance with Articles 6 and 7.
2. The candidates are responsible for establishing and promoting policies within their electorates that are consistent with the Objectives, Principles and Core Philosophies of NZL.
3. Campaign Guidelines shall be promulgated to candidates from the Board via a **Candidates Handbook**.
4. The Board may appoint Regional Presidents to administer multiple electoral regions. The Regional Presidents may appoint Electorate Committees which will include the candidates.
5. Candidates are responsible to the Board for complying with the Electoral Act rules during their campaigns as directed via the Candidates Handbook.
6. Candidates shall fund their own campaigns and report all donations and expenditure to the Board in accordance with the Electoral Act.

Article 10: Finances

Annual financial statements



1. Every year a set of annual financial statements will be prepared by or at the instigation of the Board showing all the receipts and expenditure of the Party since the preceding annual financial statements and will include a general statement of the funds, effects, liabilities, assets and all mortgages, charges and securities of any description affecting any property of the Party.
2. Expenditure of NZL funds must be approved by two individuals authorised by the Board. Approval may be in writing or through an appropriate internet banking process.
3. Auditor. The Board will appoint a suitably qualified person who meets the criteria under the Electoral Act 1993, as the Party's auditor to audit the Party's accounts and returns to the extent required by the Act.
4. Financial year. The financial year of the Party will be from 1 January to 31 December or as may otherwise be determined by the Board.

Indemnity

5. Every current Board member and Officer of the Party shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Party against any liability for any act or omission in their capacity as an Officer or Member or costs incurred by the Officer of the Party or Board member in defending or settling any claim or proceeding relating to that liability.

Article 11: Amendments to this Constitution

Amendment of the Constitution and Rules

1. This Constitution may be amended at an AGM or Special General Meeting called under Article 7 for the purpose of amending the Constitution and these Rules.
2. Notice of any meeting called for the purpose of amending this Constitution and these Rules shall be given by the Secretary to all members not less than fourteen days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such notice shall be accompanied by the proposed amendment(s) in written form.
3. The Board may convene a **Constitution Amendments** meeting to propose amendments to this Constitution for ratification by the members present at the associated AGM or SGM.
4. Members of the Board shall be considered to be present at the Constitution Amendments meeting if they are physically present or they and all others attending the meeting can hear and contribute to proceedings by way of conference call or similar electronic medium.
5. Any proposed amendment shall be voted on by all members present at the AGM or SGM, and no amendment shall be made to this Constitution unless 75% of the members present at the meeting vote in favour of such amendment(s).
6. During the course of the AGM or SGM, any member of the Board may propose a further or alternative amendment which shall be put to the meeting for a vote thereon if not less than 25% of the members present vote in favour of that course of action. The amendment must not be of such a nature as to be a completely different amendment, nor concern one or more different clauses of the Constitution than what was communicated.
7. Where any amendment(s) to the Constitution is or are made, the Board shall notify all Party Members of such change(s) forthwith.
8. The Constitution may also be amended via a member's remit passed by a 75% majority at the AGM. Each remit must relate to a single paragraph of a rule, unless the Board approves

the remit to have wider effect within that rule, as well as any consequent amendments that will be required in other rules.

Article 12: Dispute Resolution

1. Any dispute between Members of the Party (other than concerning decisions of the Board) shall be settled in the first instance by negotiation between the parties with the assistance of the Board.
2. If the dispute is not settled, a complaint may be made to any member of the Board in writing and signed by the complainant.
3. The Board may appoint a Disputes Committee to act on its behalf in this process and it is the responsibility of the Committee (or the Board if there is no committee) to ensure they have heard all sides of the dispute and are fully informed before negotiating a settlement.
4. If a disciplinary decision of the Board is disputed, then Article 4.6 (c) to (f) procedures will apply.

Article 13: Dissolution

1. The Members may decide, by a resolution passed with the affirmative vote of at **least 80%** of the votes cast by Members voting at a Special Conference convened for that purpose resolve that the Party shall be wound up.
2. A notice of any resolution passed under shall be sent to the Electoral Commission.
3. Surplus assets after payment of liabilities upon the winding up of the Party shall be disposed of by the Board for the benefit of any organisation or organisations whose objects are the same or similar to that of the Party or otherwise at the absolute discretion of the Board in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act (notwithstanding NZL is not an incorporated society).
4. Notwithstanding anything in this rule, such of the said surplus assets referred to herein which are subject to any trust, shall be disposed of in accordance with a ruling of the High Court.
5. **Merging into a coalition with another party.** The members of NZL may at a General Meeting or Special Meeting, elect to merge NZL with another party by following the steps 1 through 4 for a Dissolution. In this case, surplus assets will be donated to the new party.